

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: SMITS ET AL

FILED: July 20, 2000

FOR: Process for the Manufacture of Chicory Inulin, Hydrolysates and Derivatives of Inulin,  
and Improved Chicory Inulin Products, Hydrolysates and Derivatives

DOCKET: TIENSE RAFF.26

The Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRIOR ART DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, Applicant hereby attaches U.S. Patent Office Form PTOL-1449, including copies of the prior art references listed therein. These references were cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding PCT Patent application. A copy of the International Search Report is also enclosed. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

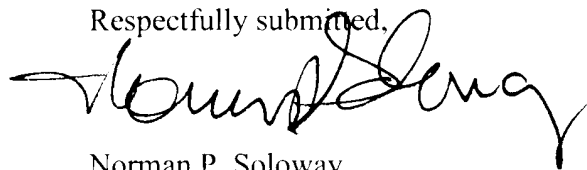
This prior art disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitute prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a copy of the International Search Report in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application

on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of the country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



Norman P. Soloway  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 24,315

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. EL384863540US

Date of Deposit July 20, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper and the papers listed thereon are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, US Patent and Trademark Office, Incoming Mailroom, 1B01 Crystal Plaza 2, 2021 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-3602.

Signature of person mailing



Name of person mailing

Johanne Hrycuna